

## Southside Early Childhood Center

1615 Blanding Drive  
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550

**Grades** PK-K Primary School

**Enrollment** 411 Students

**Principal** Mrs. Patricia A. Toney 843-857-3310

**Superintendent** Dr. Rainey Knight 843-398-5200

**Board Chair** Mr. Warren Jeffords 843-326-5970

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2006 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## ABSOLUTE RATING

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of Primary Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent

Good

Average

Below Average

Unsatisfactory

9

0

0

0

0

## IMPROVEMENT RATING

GOOD

## ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

NO

Definition: As approved by the United States Department of Education, a school with no grade above 2 meets the requirements for Adequate Yearly Progress, providing that the school that the majority of those students attend in grade 3 meets the requirements for Adequate Yearly Progress.

## SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
<b>2003</b>	Excellent	Good	No
<b>2004</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Yes
<b>2005</b>	Excellent	Excellent	Yes
<b>2006</b>	Excellent	Good	No

**DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS**

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**PERFORMANCE RATING CRITERIA**

Student attendance rate	95.3%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.8 to 1
Percent of parents attending conferences	99.2%
Days of professional development devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills in working with children less than eight years old.	14.0

**Type of accreditation:** *(More than one may apply)*

- ☐ Not pursuing accreditation  
☒ Conducting a self-study  
☒ State Department of Education  
☒ Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
☐ American Montessori Society  
☒ National Association for the Education of Young Children

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

**N/A** Not Applicable   **N/AV** Not Available   **N/C** Not Collected   **N/R** Not Reported   **I/S** Insufficient Sample

**SCHOOL PROFILE**

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Change from Last Year</b>	<b>Primary Schools with Students Like Ours</b>	<b>Median Primary School</b>
<b>Students (n= 411)</b>				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	N/R	N/A	99.0%	99.6%
Retention rate	2.8%	Up from 2.1%	4.4%	4.7%
Attendance rate	95.3%	No change	95.4%	95.8%
With disabilities other than speech	1.8%	Up from 0.2%	4.2%	3.8%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	No change	0.3%	0.2%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%

<b>Teachers (n= 24)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	58.3%	Up from 47.6%	57.0%	53.2%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV		N/AV	N/AV
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	5.6%	N/A	0.2%	0.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	Down from 5.3%	2.8%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.4%	Down from 92.8%	91.7%	90.6%
Teacher attendance rate	93.7%	Down from 94.7%	94.2%	94.6%
Average teacher salary	\$43,755	Up 4.6%	\$42,871	\$43,053
Prof. development days/teacher	22.1 days	Up from 12.3 days	17.4 days	17.2 days

<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	6.0	Up from 5.0	4.0	2.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.8 to 1	Up from 17.1 to 1	18.8 to 1	19.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	84.5%	Down from 86.5%	87.5%	89.2%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$7,740	Up 14.8%	\$6,010	\$6,176
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	63.9%	Up from 60.9%	60.8%	63.2%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	68.4%		67.0%	67.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	99.2%	Up from 99.0%	99.0%	99.0%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	<b>Our District</b>	<b>State</b>
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	6.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	8.6%	10.2%
	<b>State Objective</b>	<b>Met State Objective</b>
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers in this school	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate in this school	94.0%*	Yes

\* or greater than last year

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

**N/A** Not Applicable   **N/AV** Not Available   **N/C** Not Collected   **N/R** Not Reported   **I/S** Insufficient Sample

**REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

Southside Early Childhood Center is part of the Darlington County Schools and is located in a rural setting just outside the city limits of Hartsville, South Carolina. Southside opened its doors as an Early Childhood Center in August 1995. Our mission is to provide individually appropriate experiences that will challenge our children to become lifelong learners.

Southside is a Title I Schoolwide School and a recipient of the South Carolina Reading First Grant. We have been recognized as a Red Carpet School by the South Carolina Department of Education for our family-friendly environment. We were evaluated by the State Department of Education using the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS). The instrument measures quality in early childhood classrooms. We are extremely proud our classrooms received a high rating on this instrument. We received accreditation through National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and we are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Southside serves identified children in four-year-old kindergarten and all children in Hartsville in the five-year-old kindergarten. The school serves 80 4K and 325 5K students with 55 faculty and staff members. Twelve 3K and 4K students with disabilities and seven 5K students with special needs are also served at our school. Demographic make-up is fifty-five percent African-American, thirty-nine percent Caucasian, two percent Hispanic, and four percent other.

Kindergarten plays a unique role in a child's educational experience, serving as a transition from home or pre-school experiences to formal schooling. Southside Early Childhood Center provides the kindergarten experience that is critical in establishing positive feelings about coming to school and the child's view of self as a capable learner.

At Southside, children's natural dispositions for learning are nurtured and built upon. The foundations of family learning and involvement in the child's education are supported and welcomed.

Dedicated and highly qualified staff members are the key to having an excellent school. Seventy-six percent of our professional staff has an advanced degree. Two of our teachers hold the elite distinction of National Board Certification.

Southside Early Childhood Center is committed to teaching in ways that are consistent with the needs of young children as learners. We believe that learning environments and instructional strategies should consistently provide age, individual, and culturally appropriate experiences.

Southside is a community Where Children Come First.

Patricia A. Toney, Principal  
Winn Surka, School Improvement Council Chairperson

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS**

	Teachers
Number of surveys returned	22
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	90.9%